



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Great Plains Region

Montana Area Office

P.O. Box 30137

Billings, Montana 59107-0137



IN REPLY REFER TO: MT-450

March 9, 2015

FAXOGRAM: Water Order Change

To: Chief, Power Supply and Billing Division, WAPA, Watertown, South Dakota
Attention: F-6300
Chief, Power Dispatching Branch, WAPA, Loveland, Colorado
Attention: J-4120
Facilities Manager, Helena, Montana
Attention: MT-800, MT-810, MT-831
Project Manager, Mills, Wyoming
Attention: WY-4000, WY-4100, WY-6400
Northwestern Energy, Butte, Montana
Attention: Resource Coordinator, Deb Mallowney

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana /S/ Stephanie Micek

Subject: **Canyon Ferry Water Release Order - CFR No. 15-12**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3785.27; Storage: 1,515,046 acre-feet; River Release: 4,500 cfs; Inflow: 4,070 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

In close coordination with Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, Canyon Ferry Reservoir releases will be reduced meet target reservoir elevations and minimize impacts to the spring fishery spawn. Turbine releases are currently restricted and limited to a 2-unit capacity until March 12th. Also, on March 16th through April 2nd Unit #3 maintenance will occur; therefore turbine releases will be restricted and limited to a 2-unit capacity. In response, the following operation changes are required at Canyon Ferry Dam and Powerplant.

CANYON FERRY RELEASES AND OPERATIONS: Times are Mountain Standard Time (MST)

At 0800 hour on Tuesday, March 10, 2015:

*Decrease releases through the river outlet gates to 700 cfs.
Maintain releases through the spillway gates at 0 cfs.
Maintain turbine release at $\approx 3,600$ cfs (≈ 36 MW-Hr/hr using 101.6 cfs/mw).
Maintain release for Helena Valley Project at 0 cfs.
Decrease release to the Missouri River to 4,300 cfs.
Decrease total release from Canyon Ferry to 4,300 cfs.*

At 1630 hour on Thursday, March 12, 2015:

*Decrease releases through the river outlet gates to 0 cfs.
Maintain releases through the spillway gates at 0 cfs.
Increase turbine release to $\approx 4,300$ cfs (≈ 42 MW-Hr/hr using 101.6 cfs/mw).
Maintain release for Helena Valley Project at 0 cfs.
Maintain release to the Missouri River at 4,300 cfs.
Maintain total release from Canyon Ferry at 4,300 cfs*

During 0800 hour on Monday, March 16, 2015 through 1630 hour on Thursday, April 2, 2015:

*Increase releases through the river outlet gates to 700 cfs.
Maintain releases through the spillway gates at 0 cfs.
Decrease turbine release to $\approx 3,600$ cfs (≈ 36 MW-Hr/hr using 101.6 cfs/mw).
Maintain release for Helena Valley Project at 0 cfs.
Maintain release to the Missouri River at 4,300 cfs.
Maintain total release from Canyon Ferry at 4,300 cfs*